

9th December 1959]

*Admission to Medical Colleges*

\* 86 Q.—SRI N. R. THIAGARAJAN : கனம் ரெனின்ஸ் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் தயவு செய்து கீழ்க்கண்ட கேள்விகளுக்கு பதிலளிப்பாரா—

(அ) சென்னை ராஜ்ய வைத்தியக் கல்லூரிகளில் 55 ஸ்தானங்கள் பூர்த்தி செய்யாமல் வைத்திருப்பது உண்மையா?

(ஆ) அதற்குக் காரணம் என்ன?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

*Reeds and rattan*

\* 87 Q.—SRI K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) the forest area under reeds and rattan growth;

(b) the quantity collected annually in the past three years;

(c) the present method of utilizing these products;

(d) whether there is any new plan for its better utilization in future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) The exact forest area under reeds and rattan has not been estimated as they generally occur in a scattered nature in the moist ever green forests in the State. Reed occurs in abundance in the forests of Ambasamudram Range of Tirunelveli North division over an area of about 15,100 acres.

(b) Full details are not available showing the quantity of rattan and reeds collected annually during the past three years. Information is available in respect of rattan for 1956-57 and in respect of reeds and rattan for 1957-58 and it is furnished below :—

1956-57—rattan—437,179 lb.

1957-58—reeds—183,792 lb.

1957-58—rattan—825,152 lb.

(c) Reeds and rattans are utilised for manufacturing baskets, chairs, furniture frame and umbrella handle.

(d) & (e) It has been considered that eta reeds found in Tirunelveli North division can be utilised for manufacturing paper pulp. It is estimated that about 17,500 tons of eta reeds can be made available annually for manufacture of paper.